

I. AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) A kit useful for the treatment of a mammal suffering from or predisposed to a neoplastic disorder comprising at least one container ~~having a~~ containing substantially purified dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies that ~~binds~~ bind specifically to TAG-72 deposited therein,

~~which each~~ dimeric antibody ~~comprises~~ comprising two antibodies that are non-covalently associated to form a tetravalent antibody dimer having four antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72,

wherein each of the antibodies in the dimer comprises two antibody heavy chain polypeptides having the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 7), and two antibody light chain polypeptides having the light chain variable region amino acid sequence shown in Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO: 9), and has two antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72; and

wherein a C_H2 domain is deleted from, and a C_H3 domain is fused directly to the hinge region of each of the four antibody heavy chain polypeptides in the dimeric antibody;

and further comprising a label or an insert indicating that said dimeric antibody may be used to treat said neoplastic disorder.

21-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) A Substantially purified dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies that ~~binds~~ bind specifically to TAG-72,

~~which each~~ dimeric antibody ~~comprises~~ comprising two antibodies that are non-covalently associated to form a tetravalent antibody dimer having four antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72,

wherein each of the antibodies in the dimer comprises two antibody heavy chain polypeptides having the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 7), and two antibody light chain polypeptides having the light chain variable region amino acid sequence shown in Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO: 9), and has two antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72; and

wherein a C_H2 domain is deleted from, and a C_H3 domain is fused directly to the hinge region of each of the four antibody heavy chain polypeptides in the dimeric antibody.

30-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 29, wherein said dimeric antibody is conjugated to a cytotoxic agent.

39. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 38, wherein said cytotoxic agent comprises a radioisotope.

40. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 39, wherein said radioisotope is selected from the group consisting of ⁹⁰Y, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, ¹²³I, ¹¹¹In, ¹⁰⁵Rh, ¹⁵³Sm, ⁶⁷Cu, ⁶⁷Ga, ¹⁶⁶Ho, ¹⁷⁷Lu, ¹⁸⁶Re and ¹⁸⁸Re.

41-54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 20, wherein said antibody dimer comprises human antibody constant regions.

56-61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 55, wherein said antibody dimer comprises four antibody heavy chain polypeptides having the heavy chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 7), and four antibody light chain polypeptides having the light chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO: 9).

63. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 20 wherein said neoplastic disorder is colon cancer.

64-67. (Canceled)

68. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 29, wherein said antibody dimer comprises human antibody constant regions.

69-74. (Canceled)

75. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 68, wherein said antibody dimer comprises four antibody heavy chain polypeptides having the heavy chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 7), and four antibody light chain polypeptides having the light chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO: 9).

76. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 38, wherein said cytotoxic agent is selected from the group consisting of cytostatic agents, alkylating agents, antimetabolites, anti-proliferative agents, tubulin binding agents, hormones and hormone antagonists, anthracycline drugs, vinca drugs, mitomycins, bleomycins, cytotoxic nucleosides, pteridine drugs, diynenes, podophyllotoxins, toxic enzymes, and radiosensitizing drugs.

77. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 76, wherein said cytotoxic agent is selected from the group consisting of mechlorethamine, triethylenephosphoramidate, cyclophosphamide, ifosfamide, chlorambucil, busulfan, melphalan, triaziquone, nitrosourea compounds, adriamycin, carminomycin, daunorubicin (daunomycin), doxorubicin, aminopterin, methotrexate, methopterin, mithramycin, streptonigrin, dichloromethotrexate, mitomycin C, actinomycin-D, porfiromycin, 5-fluorouracil, floxuridine, fltorafur, 6-mercaptopurine, cytarabine, cytosine arabinoside, podophyllotoxin, etoposide, etoposide phosphate, melphalan, vinblastine, vincristine, leurosine, vindesine, leurosine, taxol, taxane, cytochalasin B, gramicidin D, ethidium bromide, emetine, tenoposide, colchicin, dihydroxy anthracin dione, mitoxantrone, procaine, tetracaine, lidocaine, propranolol, puromycin,

ricin subunit A, abrin, diphtheria toxin, botulinum, cyanginosins, saxitoxin, shigatoxin, tetanus, tetrodotoxin, trichothecene, verrucologen, corticosteroids, progestins, estrogens, antiestrogens, androgens, aromatase inhibitors, calicheamicin, esperamicins, and dynemicins.

78. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 76, wherein said hormone or hormone antagonist is selected from the group consisting of prednisone, hydroxyprogesterone, medroprogesterone, diethylstilbestrol, tamoxifen, testosterone, and aminogluthetimide.

79. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 38, wherein said cytotoxic agent is a prodrug selected from the group consisting of phosphate-containing prodrugs, thiophosphate-containing prodrugs, sulfate containing prodrugs, peptide containing prodrugs, β -lactam-containing prodrugs, optionally substituted phenoxyacetamide-containing prodrugs, optionally substituted phenylacetamide-containing prodrugs, 5-fluorocytosinem, and 5-fluorouridine prodrugs that can be converted to the more active cytotoxic free drug.

80. (Currently amended) A kit useful for the treatment of a mammal suffering from or predisposed to a neoplastic disorder comprising at least one container ~~having a~~ containing substantially purified dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies that ~~binds~~ bind specifically to TAG-72 deposited therein,

~~which each~~ dimeric antibody ~~comprises~~ comprising two antibodies that are non-covalently associated to form a tetravalent antibody dimer having four antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72,

wherein each of the antibodies in the dimer comprises two antibody heavy chain polypeptides having the heavy chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 7), and two antibody light chain polypeptides having the light chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO: 9), and has two antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72; and

wherein a C_H2 domain is deleted from, and a C_H3 domain is fused directly to the hinge region of each of the four antibody heavy chain polypeptides in the dimeric antibody;

and further comprising a label or an insert indicating that said dimeric antibody may be

used to treat said neoplastic disorder.

81. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 80, wherein said antibody dimer comprises human antibody constant regions.

82-83. (Canceled)

84. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 80 wherein said neoplastic disorder is colon cancer.

85. (Currently amended) A Substantially purified dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies that ~~binds~~ bind specifically to TAG-72,

~~which each~~ dimeric antibody ~~comprises~~ comprising two antibodies that are non-covalently associated to form a tetravalent antibody dimer having four antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72,

wherein each of the antibodies in the dimer comprises two antibody heavy chain polypeptides having the heavy chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 7), and two antibody light chain polypeptides having the light chain polypeptide amino acid sequence shown in Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO: 9), and has two antigen-binding sites that bind specifically to TAG-72; and

wherein a C_H2 domain is deleted from, and a C_H3 domain is fused directly to the hinge region of each of the four antibody heavy chain polypeptides in the dimeric antibody.

86. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 85, wherein said dimeric antibody is conjugated to a cytotoxic agent.

87. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 85, wherein said cytotoxic agent comprises a radioisotope.

88. (Currently amended) The dimeric ~~antibody~~ antibodies of claim 85, wherein said radioisotope is selected from the group consisting of ⁹⁰Y, ¹²⁵I, ¹³¹I, ¹²³I, ¹¹¹In, ¹⁰⁵Rh, ¹⁵³Sm, ⁶⁷Cu, ⁶⁷Ga, ¹⁶⁶Ho, ¹⁷⁷Lu, ¹⁸⁶Re and ¹⁸⁸Re.

89. (Currently amended) The dimeric antibody antibodies of claim 86, wherein said cytotoxic agent is selected from the group consisting of cytostatic agents, alkylating agents, antimetabolites, anti-proliferative agents, tubulin binding agents, hormones and hormone antagonists, anthracycline drugs, vinca drugs, mitomycins, bleomycins, cytotoxic nucleosides, pteridine drugs, diylenes, podophyllotoxins, toxic enzymes, and radiosensitizing drugs.

90. (Currently amended) The dimeric antibody antibodies of claim 89, wherein said cytotoxic agent is selected from the group consisting of mechlorethamine, triethylenephosphoramide, cyclophosphamide, ifosfamide, chlorambucil, busulfan, melphalan, triaziquone, nitrosourea compounds, adriamycin, carminomycin, daunorubicin (daunomycin), doxorubicin, aminopterin, methotrexate, methopterin, mithramycin, streptonigrin, dichloromethotrexate, mitomycin C, actinomycin-D, porfiromycin, 5-fluorouracil, floxuridine, ftorafur, 6-mercaptopurine, cytarabine, cytosine arabinoside, podophyllotoxin, etoposide, etoposide phosphate, melphalan, vinblastine, vincristine, leurosine, vindesine, leurosine, taxol, taxane, cytochalasin B, gramicidin D, ethidium bromide, emetine, tenoposide, colchicin, dihydroxy anthracin dione, mitoxantrone, procaine, tetracaine, lidocaine, propranolol, puromycin, ricin subunit A, abrin, diphtheria toxin, botulinum, cyanginosins, saxitoxin, shigatoxin, tetanus, tetrodotoxin, trichothecene, verrucologen, corticosteroids, progestins, estrogens, antiestrogens, androgens, aromatase inhibitors, calicheamicin, esperamicins, and dynemicins.

91. (Currently amended) The dimeric antibody antibodies of claim 89, wherein said hormone or hormone antagonist is selected from the group consisting of prednisone, hydroxyprogesterone, medroprogesterone, diethylstilbestrol, tamoxifen, testosterone, and aminogluthetamide.

92. (Currently amended) The dimeric antibody antibodies of claim 86, wherein said cytotoxic agent is a prodrug selected from the group consisting of phosphate-containing prodrugs, thiophosphate-containing prodrugs, sulfate containing prodrugs, peptide containing prodrugs, β -lactam-containing prodrugs, optionally substituted phenoxyacetamide-containing prodrugs, optionally substituted phenylacetamide-containing prodrugs, 5-fluorocytosinem, and 5-fluorouridine prodrugs that can be converted to the more active cytotoxic free drug.

93. (New) The kit of claim 20, wherein the dimeric antibodies are substantially purified from antibodies having fewer than four antigen binding sites

94. (New) The kit of claim 20, wherein the dimeric antibodies are greater than 98% purified.

95. (New) The dimeric antibodies of claim 29, which are substantially purified from antibodies having fewer than four antigen binding sites.

96. (New) The dimeric antibodies of claim 29, which are greater than 98% purified.

97. (New) The kit of claim 80, wherein the dimeric antibodies are substantially purified from antibodies having fewer than four antigen binding sites.

98. (New) The kit of claim 80, wherein the dimeric antibodies are greater than 98% purified.

99. (New) The dimeric antibodies of claim 85, which are substantially purified from antibodies having fewer than four antigen binding sites.

100. (New) The dimeric antibodies of claim 85, which are greater than 98% purified.